

TALLYHO

Serving the men and women of Fighter Country

Luke Air Force Base, Ariz.

Reserve unit trains F-16 students

By Maj. Linda McCourt

944th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The Air Force Reserve Command became an integral member of Luke's 56th Fighter Wing today by activating an associate unit to help train F-16 pilots for their multi-role mission.

The 301st Fighter Squadron, an original Tuskegee Airman unit, is commanded by Lt. Col. Pat Shay, a traditional reservist and airline pilot.

Reserve instructor pilots from the 301st FS fly 56th FW F-16s to train active-duty student pilots as part of the Reserve instructor-pilot associate program.

This is a joint Reserve and AETC initiative designed to help with the Air Force's active-duty pilot retention efforts.

"The Reserve associate program is a logical extension of the expeditionary aerospace force concept," said Col. Craig Ferguson, 944th Fighter Wing commander. "It gives the total force the option of employing experienced fighter pilots who leave active duty, but still want to be a part of the Air Force Reserve."

The program also allows more active-

duty fighter pilots to fill positions at operational assignments around the world.

Luke's associate program will be phased in over a 2.5-year period.

The program enables the release of more experienced F-16 instructors back to operational fighter units, said Col. Steve Sargeant, 56th FW commander. Combat units benefit by having to send fewer experienced pilots to Luke, raising the experience level in the field.

"We want the Reserve associate program to succeed and we work closely with the 944th FW to capture the right blend of experience and expertise," Sargeant said. "The Reserve integration at Luke will be a win for the total force."

The partnership with the Reserve and active-duty forces is a good way to strike a balance that allows the Air Force to take advantage of the Reserve resident F-16 experience, while trying to "bridge the pilot gap," Shay said. Air Force leadership predicts a shortage of 2,000 pilots by 2003. Because of this forecast, Luke is not the only AETC

See **Reserve**, Page 6



Tech. Sgt. Brandt Smith

Lt. Col. Pat Shay, 301st Fighter Squadron commander, discusses a mission with 1st Lt. Josh Padgett, 62nd Fighter Squadron student. The 301st FS activates today to assist training 56th Fighter Wing F-16 pilots.

Farewell

Luke command chief retires

By Senior Airman Jeremy Clayton Tredway

56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

After spending nearly two years representing the needs of more than 5,000 enlisted troops, Luke's command chief master sergeant steps down, retiring after 30 years of service.

As a liaison between 56th Fighter Wing enlisted troops and senior leaders, Chief Master Sgt. Bob Handley championed enlisted training for NCOs and fought for dormitory funding.

Although Handley said he can't pinpoint one "greatest" accomplishment, one he's very proud of is the first term airmen's center which helps transition airmen from technical school to the operational Air Force.

"If some of the things I've done stick, then they're my greatest accomplishments," Handley said, "The next command chief will continue to improve the present programs and begin new ones. One of the most positive things we did was the FTAC because it allowed us to close correctional custody by telling airmen the do's and don'ts before they get in trouble."

"Bob was always one of the easiest people to get along with," said Chief Master Sgt. Charles Werther, 56th Support Group. "He always had time to sit and listen to new ideas. We didn't always agree, but we always respected each other's opinions. As the command chief, he had his nose into the business of making Luke better than he found it."

Werther said Handley almost single-handedly revived the financially sinking enlisted club by creating revenue-producing ideas like casino night, parents relief night and obtaining a satellite dish that enables football games to be shown in the casual bar.

Werther said Handley was also instrumental in events and programs like the Friends of Luke golf tournament, Operation Warmheart softball tournament, adopt-a-family and the annual Air Force ball.

"There wasn't an event happening on base that he wasn't aware of. He ensured that things were run in the best manner possible, adding an enlisted point-of-view," Werther said.

Handley loved what he was doing, but realized he

couldn't avoid the inevitable. Reminiscent, he said it was time to pass the torch, hopefully, leaving things better than he found them.

"This has been the best job in the world," Handley said. "I wouldn't leave if the Air Force would let me stay past 30 years."

Handley said he just wants to watch as much Major League Baseball spring training games as he can. He also wants to play a little golf before reentering the workforce, however, employers keep calling him for job interviews.

"My wife and her friend think that I've got to find a job on base because I'm too military for civilian life," Handley said.

Handley said the Air Force has changed immensely since he joined 30 years ago. "As an airman, no one ever asked me what I thought, they told me what I thought."

He said he remembers when people smoked at their desk and chief master sergeants regularly chewed his butt using less than five words that weren't swear words.

"We've come a long way. Now if I swore at airmen, I'd be in just as much trouble," he said.

Handley said the biggest change is probably the technology used by today's Air Force.

He participated in several developmental projects, most notably the production of the F-117A Stealth Fighter.

Handley received several professional awards during his career including the 836th Air Division Lt. Lance Sijan, Senior NCO of the Year and the Air Force Association Aerospace Manager of the Year.

"Chief Handley is a devoted and tireless advocate for our airmen. He knew the pulse of the enlisted force and kept it beating strong," said Col. Edward Kasl, 56th Fighter Wing vice commander. "He advised the wing commander and me daily on all aspects of the enlisted force. The chief will be missed by Team Luke, but I am sure he will be supporting us as he transitions to his next career. We wish him and his family the best of luck in the future."



Handley

Panthers fire AIM-9s, offer DACT at Tyndall

By Kristen M. Butler

56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The 63rd Fighter Squadron "Panthers" return Saturday from a two-week deployment to Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla., where they fired live missiles under the Weapons System Evaluation Program and provided dissimilar air combat training to an F-15 fighter squadron.

"The deployment serves two purposes," 1st Lt. Matt Wynn, 63rd FS maintenance officer in charge, said. "First we provide DACT to F-15 student pilots and second, a few of our instructor pilots are given the opportunity to participate in WSEP."

The Panthers left Feb. 19 with six jets and approximately 65 people. The group included a dozen IPs, maintainers and support from the 56th Equipment and 56th Component Repair Squadrons along with help from 56th Fighter Wing quality assurance and maintenance operations center people. They assisted the 1st Fighter Squadron at Tyndall during their air combat tactics and maneuvering phases of their syllabus by providing DACT.

"While there, we fly two basic missions," Lt. Col. Rob Topp, 63rd FS commander said. "We either protect our 'home' with defensive counter-air tactics or we strike their 'home' with offensive counter-air tactics – the scenario is always one or two F-16s against two F-15s."

Topp said the Florida flying environment is much different than flying in Arizona.

"Flying over water offers distinct challenges. Pilots must differentiate between blue sky and blue water — It creates an illusionary effect," Topp said. "The weather is also a lot more humid. Both conditions are much different than what we experience in our desert environment."

The 56th and 325th Fighter Wings have been supporting each other's flying training programs for approximately five years. The purpose is to teach student pilots basic fighter and air combat maneuvers against other aircraft.

Both the 1st FS and the panthers benefit by matching Falcons against Eagles.

They were given an opportunity to practice threat simulation, brush-up on air-to-air tactics and promote squadron camaraderie.

"The TDY (temporary duty) to Tyndall gives instructors a chance to fly with other IPs in a more flexible environment," Maj. Michael Hays, 63rd FS instructor

See **DACT**, Page 6

Action Line



Col. Steve Sargeant
56th FW commander

As members of Team Luke, we share a common goal of working together to accomplish our mission and taking care of our people.

Your ideas, suggestions and comments are important. Please work directly with the official responsible for the area that has earned your attention. However, if the appropriate official is unable to

provide a satisfactory response, you can call me through the Action Line at 856-7011 or send an e-mail to command.actionline@luke.af.mil.

Please include your name and telephone number so I can provide a personal response. Together we can make Luke an even better place to work and live.

Concealed weapons permit

Comment: I recently received my Carry Concealed Weapons permit. Earning it required an exhaustive course on state and federal weapons laws, weapons safety and personal background checks through Arizona Department of Public Service, FBI and others. I am allowed to carry a firearm in civilian clothes anywhere in Arizona and any other state with reciprocity laws. Can I carry it with me while off duty in civilian clothes on Luke's main base, the base exchange, shopette or in base housing? I don't know if I can exercise my Second Amendment rights on base?

Response: I appreciate the training you received and the background checks you had to go through to obtain your concealed weapons permit. However, the only persons authorized to carry concealed firearms at Luke are Air Force Office of Special Investigations Special Agents, security forces investigators on official business and on-duty civilian law enforcement officers. Luke and Air Force Instructions prohibit people from concealing firearms or dangerous weapons "on one's person." Personnel authorized by state law may carry concealed weapons off base only. Those in violation of carrying a concealed firearm without written authorization of the installation commander are subject to administrative and disciplinary action. Capt. Robert Frederiksen, at 856-3607 can provide more detail if needed.

Hospital pat on the back

Comment: I'm a retired Marine who was recently hospitalized at Luke with acute appendicitis. I received excellent care from Lt. Col. Norman Gardner and his staff in the surgical center. I wish to thank them for their outstanding service.

Response: I'm glad to hear you're doing well. We have an outstanding hospital staff. Gardner and the medical-surgical unit staff represent just a few of those fine military and civilian employees working hard to meet our beneficiaries' health care needs. I appreciate you sharing this "pat on the back."



e-mail:
command.actionline@luke.af.mil
or call,
856-7011

Command chief retires: 'Keep eye on horizon'

By Chief Master Sgt. Bob L. Handley
56th Fighter Wing command chief master sergeant

The 56th Fighter Wing is without question the best fighter wing in the U. S. Air Force and Luke is obviously one of the premier assignments in our Air Force.

You make a difference everyday, not just by training F-16 pilots and crew chiefs. You have written new procedures to better accomplish your jobs; you have researched and acquired better equipment, and in some cases gone to the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office and drawn out equipment to make your jobs easier and less time consuming. All this while compiling a list of awards that would make any wing green with envy.

As you continue into a future filled with

uncertainty and adventure, keep your spirits high and your eye on the horizon. You are making the Air Force better than you found it. You are developing tomorrow's Air Force every day and it is up to you to ensure we remain

ready and able to answer our country's call to duty anytime, anywhere.

As I begin a new journey, a journey into civilian life, I wish to extend my thanks to all the members of "Team Luke" who allowed me to work for them this last 18 months.

What an awesome job! I can tell you without reservation, this has been the best

job I have had in my 30 years. I know there are some who could have done the job better, but there are none who could have tried harder to make your jobs easier and more enjoyable.

Thank you and may God Bless.

"You are developing tomorrow's Air Force every day and it is up to you to ensure we remain ready and able to answer our country's call to duty anytime, anywhere."

Chief Master Sgt. Bob L. Handley
56th Fighter Wing command chief master sergeant

Women's History Month

Naval officer paves road

By 2nd Lt. Charity Kauffman
308th Fighter Squadron

"An Extraordinary Century for Women — Now, Imagine the Future" is the 2000 theme for National Women's History Month, dedicated to learning and appreciating the important accomplishments of women throughout history.

In honor of this month, there is one individual who epitomizes the theme and stands as a true role model and pioneer for women everywhere. That person is Rear Adm. Grace Murray Hopper.

She retired in 1986 from the U.S. Navy at the age of 80, the oldest active-duty officer in the United States having served 43 years. Her accomplishments in life were simply amazing.

She was born in 1906 and at 22, she graduated from Vassar College with a bachelor's degree in mathematics and physics. She went on to complete master's and doctorate's degrees as well. She became the first Yale woman to earn a doctorate's degree in math.

She then taught at Vassar for 12 years before joining the Navy and serving her country during World War II. At first, the Navy did not take her, saying her

position as a math teacher was much more valuable to the war effort than anything she could do in the Navy. She wouldn't accept this answer, and 23 years later in 1966, her age forced her to retire from the Naval Reserves.

Ironically, seven months after retirement, she was the first Naval Reserve woman called

back to active duty for what was supposed to be six months. That time period

later turned into an indefinite reappointment and the Navy kept her around as long as they could.

While in the Navy, Hopper worked on some of the first U.S. digital computers. It was during her work on the Mark II that she is credited with coining the phrase "computer bug" after a moth flew into one of the computer's relays.

She also invented the compiler, a device that turns symbolic mathematical code into machine code.

Hopper is also a founder of the programming language COBOL, or common business-oriented language. This was a standardized, universal computer language to be used in business.

People around the world recognized Hopper's outstanding achievements and forward thinking. In 1969, the Data Processing Management Association honored her with the first-ever Computer Science Man of the Year Award. She was also the first woman and the first American made a distinguished fellow of the British Computer Society in 1973.

Even after retirement, Hopper was the first woman to be awarded with the National Medal of Technology in 1991. Through all this, the woman nicknamed "Amazing Grace" claimed her work as a teacher was the most important and rewarding.

After Hopper's death in 1992, the Navy named a ship after her, and the destroyer USS Hopper was christened in San Francisco Bay in 1997. True to form, hers is the first female name to be designated to an

Arleigh Burke class destroyer.

This remarkable woman always spoke of the future and

what it could bring, in terms of computers and individual potential. Her favorite saying was a Latin phrase, "aude et effice," which translates "dare and do" — a fitting description of a woman who did just that.

Commander

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Editorial information

The 56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office prepares all editorial content for the "Tallyho." The editor will edit or re-write material for clarity, brevity or to conform with Air Force style as required by Air Force Instruction 35-1.

Contributors, please deliver articles typed, double-spaced and on an IBM-compatible floppy disk to the public affairs office or send through distribution to 56 FW/PA, Attn: Editor or send them via e-mail to Tallyho@luke.af.mil. The phone number to the editorial office is 856-6055.

Unless otherwise noted, all photographs are U.S. Air Force photos. The "Tallyho" uses material from the Armed Forces Information Service, Air Force News Service, Air Education and Training Command News Service and other sources. All advertising is handled by Pueblo Publishers, Inc. 7122 N. 59th Ave., Glendale, Ariz., 85301, phone (623) 842-6000.

Deadline for "Tallyho" submissions is Friday at noon.

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Courtesy photo

Lt. Col. Dave Plant, 61st FS operations officer, sends off one of the Top Dog F-16s to participate in War Day.

Top Dogs go to ‘war’

By Kristen M. Butler
56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Members of the 61st Fighter Squadron deployed to the Los Angeles area Feb. 18 to defend the western coast of the United States against intruding Russian Mig-29s – at least that was the combat training scenario. In reality, “Top Dogs” participated in an unprecedented war day to enhance instructor pilot and maintenance team proficiency and camaraderie. Because of Luke’s training mission, IPs don’t often have a chance to fly large-package combat sorties, Lt. Col. Dave Plant, 61FS operations officer, said. “That’s when we came up with the idea to create an ‘IP War Day,’ Plant said. “The whole idea behind the event is to keep IP proficiency high – that’s how we ensure our students get the best training possible.” The day was designed to give instructors a chance to fly without their students, allowing more advanced flying. In fact, 18 jets were launched, with 16 flying mock combat in the Sells operating area east of Goldwater Range. The scenario consisted of eight “blue air” friendly aircraft vs. eight “red air” enemy aircraft. During training, Capt Bob Rickard, 61st FS weapons officer and blue force commander, introduced

a four vs. four concept and many who had never flown in an eight-ship package, were given the opportunity to improve their combat capability. Lt. Col. Mike Carter, 61st FS commander, led enemy aircraft into battle. “Most flying red air were killed, while blue air didn’t take any losses,” Carter said. “The flying was challenging. ... Some of our IPs are more experienced than others, and this event offered those with less experience to prosper.” War Day was not pulled off single-handedly by the IPs. “The Top Dog maintainers were the real heroes in this war. To be successful, we needed as many of our jets as possible to perform in the large-force employment exercise we had in mind — there are very few squadrons in the Air Force who can put up its entire fleet for a mass launch and get the results we did,” Plant said. Rickard agreed. “Top Dog maintenance was outstanding, we were able to launch 18 jets — a true credit to the professionalism and quality our maintainers exhibit every day. Without the support of squadron leadership and the maintenance team, we never could have pulled this off,” Rickard said. Normally, a Luke fighter squadron can’t afford to give up 18 jets in one day

for instructor training, but because the Top Dogs were ahead of the student training timeline, they could accomplish this feat. Besides, IPs weren’t the only ones to gain in this endeavor. Because the flying package contained several D models, half of the 61st FS basic-course students were able to tag along in the back seat. In addition, each jet possessed an air combat maneuvering instrumentation pod, allowing the remaining students and the rest of the squadron to watch the “war” live. In fact, all members of the squadron were involved in a mass brief before and after the air-to-air combat. Students and instructors alike got a taste of flying in a real-world combat situation. Top Dog pilots were even escorted to their jets by security forces, complete with lights and sirens. “This measure ensures nothing happens to our pilots before they’re able to launch,” Carter explained. “If our pilots are taken out by terrorists before they can launch, we’re not going to be very effective.” The 61st FS plans to have a War Day every quarter. “This all goes hand in hand with the wing’s mission of training the world’s finest fighter pilots,” Carter said. “...The higher our proficiency, the more effective our instructors.”

News Briefs

Chief Handley retirement

A retirement ceremony for 56th Fighter Wing Command Chief Master Sgt. Bob Handley is today at 1 p.m. in the 310th Fighter Squadron hangar. All 56th FW people are invited to attend.

301st FS re-activation

A re-activation ceremony for the 301st Fighter Squadron is today at 2 p.m. at the 944th Fighter Wing, Bldg. 999. Lt. Col. Pat Shay assumes command. For more information, call Maj. Linda McCourt at 856-5388.

Self-help closure

The self-help center is closed today from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. for an office function. For more information, call 856-7180.

Phone number change

The 56th Fighter Wing commander’s phone number has changed to 856-0056. The command post number is 856-5600.

Officer volunteers needed

The Air Force needs one major and two captains to support United Nations military observers in the western Sahara. The deadline to volunteer is March 17. For more information, call Maj. Mike Toder or Capt. Romero Reid at DSN 665-3754.

Operation identification

The 56th Security Forces Squadron has an engraver for Defense Department identification card holders. Law enforcement and insurance officials suggest people engrave unchangeable personal information on items such as power tools and electronics. The engraver can be signed out for one day at the security forces desk in Bldg. 179. For more information, call 856-5970.

Rental Partnership program

Military members are eligible for the Rental Partnership program, formerly the Set-Aside Rental Housing program, without paying deposits, fees or credit checks. Rent payment allotments are still mandatory.

Tax center help, volunteers needed

The Luke Tax Center needs front desk volunteers. The center is open Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. at Bldg. 1150, Room 1064. The center provides free income tax help to active-duty members and retirees; appointments are not necessary. For more information or to volunteer, call Barbara Gaugert at 856-3140 or Staff Sgt. Jay Dorris at 856-6901.

Logistics professional banquet

The Logistics Professional Banquet is March 11 at 6 p.m. in Hangar 913. The event recognizes 56th Fighter Wing outstanding maintenance and support personnel. Contact chief master sergeants for tickets.

Chiefs Group chief needed

The Air Force Personnel Center Chiefs Group seeks a chief for their group with a July 31 report date. Application packages are due March 31. For more information, call DSN 665-2744.

Trash and recycling pick up

Luke’s trash and recycling pick up and disposal services are contracted. These services are monitored by customer complaint and periodic surveillance by the 56th Civil Engineer Service Contracts Section. For more information, call Rodney Bartling at 856-6271.

Nuclear technology fellowship

Packages for the October nuclear technology fellowship program are due March 31. The program offers two years of instruction and hands-on experience at Sandia National Laboratory. Officers with seven to 12 years service or civilians GS-13 and 14 with experience and qualifications in Air Force nuclear missions are eligible. For more information, call Maj. Andrew Weirick at DSN 227-0813.

309th Fighter Squadron commander

Lt. Col. Chris Bisgrove took command of the 309th Fighter Squadron Feb. 25.

Hometown: Arlington, Va.

Years in service: 18

Family: Mom and dad, four brothers and sisters, 10 nieces and nephews with four more on the way, ... and the 309th Fighter Squadron

Education: A bachelor’s of science degree in industrial engineering and operations research from Virginia Technical University and a master’s degree in business in business administration from Golden Gate University

Previous assignments: Vance Air Force Base, Okla.; Taegu Air Base, Republic of Korea; George Air Force Base, Calif.; German Air Force exchange pilot; Fighter Weapons School; Holloman Air Force Base, N.M.; U.S. Air Forces in Europe staff tour; Shaw Air Force Base, S.C. and Luke

Inspirations: God

Goals: The goal I set as a lieutenant was to be a fighter squadron commander. Wow, now I need to get used to the idea of being one.

Greatest feat: Learning the German language well enough to relay a spontaneous anecdote

Leadership philosophy: Your team wants to do well ... if you can only communicate what that entails.

Self-description: Nearly as positive and patient as my mom and sisters

Famous last words: Trust your instincts.

Hobbies: Road races and golf

Bad habits: Not enough road races and golf



Bisgrove



Staff Sgt. Aaron Marcus

Sally James, 56th Services Squadron Skills Development Center framing manager, provides museum matting to a fine art print. The squadron is evaluated for the AETC LeMay Award beginning Monday.

LeMay team evaluates Luke Services facilities

By Maj. Derek Kaufman

56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Luke’s 56th Services Squadron will be evaluated Sunday through Thursday as one of two finalists for the 2000 AETC Gen. Curtis E. LeMay Services Award.

“I’m very impressed with the variety of programs our services squadron offers to our people,” said Col. Steve Sargeant, 56 Fighter Wing commander. “The customer feedback we’ve received also indicates the quality of our activities is truly outstanding.”

Lt. Col. Shelta Reese, a division chief at Headquarters AETC Services leads a team of five evaluators to take an across-the-board snapshot of service’s contribution to the mission and Team Luke’s quality of life.

Luke and Randolph are the finalists. Randolph’s 12th Services Squadron was evaluated earlier in February.

The LeMay evaluation team looks at everything from school-age programs to food service and clubs, to the veterinary clinic, said Maj. Anne Fitch, 56th Services commander. The team examines critical mission programs like readiness, honor guard and mortuary affairs, along with community programs

like outdoor recreation and the Fort Tuthill recreation area, in Flagstaff, Ariz.

“We’re really proud to be selected as a finalist,” Fitch said. “After meeting our people, seeing our facilities and great programs, and talking to our customers, I think the LeMay evaluators will know they’ve found the winning team.”

Sargeant said Luke’s services team earned a remarkable number of awards during 1999. The youth center received accreditation by the National School-Age Care Alliance, following a demanding evaluation of training, safety and security. The staff had an unprecedented zero discrepancies among 144 items inspected, said Sherry McClure, family member support flight chief.

More than 150 children, ranging from 6-weeks to 5 attend the nationally-accredited child development center, where pre-school children enjoy a variety of learning activities to enhance social development including music, art and science, said Beth Oudean, CDC director. The award winning center, which underwent a \$450,000 renovation, offers children of

See **LeMay** Page 7

Air Force leaders ask for guidance at prayer breakfast

By Staff Sgt. B. Coors-Davidson

56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Members of the 56th Fighter Wing from different religious backgrounds and denominations came together Feb. 23 at the Desert Star Enlisted Club for the National Prayer Breakfast.

The breakfast opened with readings from the Koran, Torah and the New Testament. Guest speaker was AETC command chaplain Col. Charles Baldwin.

Baldwin’s message, “prayer is better than e-mail,” told the story of man’s desire to communicate and the power of prayer.

After graduating from the Air Force Academy in 1969, he served as an EC-121 “Super Constellation” pilot and then as a HH 53 “Super Jolly Green Giant” rescue helicopter pilot during the Vietnam War. Baldwin is credited with flying more than 80 rescue sorties, never leaving anyone behind.

“Our desire to communicate began as a dream to get mail from Missouri to California in record time,” Baldwin said. “By stagecoach it took 20 days, then in 1860 the Pony Express was able to get the mail through in just a few days. In 1861 the telegraph took the place of the pony express and in 1876, Alexander Graham Bell’s electric speech machine replaced the telegraph.

“Since then our continued desire to communicate has brought us the amazing discoveries we enjoy today.”

Baldwin spoke of the importance of communication during his time flying in Vietnam and the most important communication system in the history of humanity.

“The most effective communication system known to man is as effective today as the day it was created,” he said. “It is the most powerful communication system ever and is used by kings, great leaders and children alike.

“This communication tool is the gift of prayer. It’s a direct link from man’s heart to God’s heart. Prayer can shut lions’ mouths, mend a broken bone and heal a broken heart.”

Prayer is for anyone with the faith to pray, Baldwin added.

In 1942, prayer breakfast groups were inaugurated in the Senate and House of Representatives. In 1953, President Eisenhower established the first presidential prayer breakfast. He met with members of the Senate and House prayer groups and wanted to demonstrate the desire to seek divine guidance for personal leadership and to reaffirm faith and dependence on God.

Today, the breakfast draws together the president and members of the cabinet, Supreme Court, Congress and military leaders.

The National Prayer Breakfast is a time to join together in an attitude of companionship to reflect on personal values and to pray for the welfare of the country.

Luke Warrior

Name: Maj. Steve “Duke” Hormel

Duty title: 425th Fighter Squadron F-16 instructor pilot and assistant director of operations

Job responsibilities: Train combat-ready Republic of Singapore air force pilots, assist in executing daily flying operations and project officer for Red Flag and other squadron deployments. In addition he is a squadron standards and evaluation flight examiner, Top 3 and supervisor of flying

Hometown: Bellevue, Wash.

Years in service: 12

Family: Wife, Dawn; and daughters Kendall,4, and Payton, 2; and of course a dog

Education: A bachelor’s of science degree in flight technology from Central Washington University and one course left to attain a master’s degree in aeronautical sciences from Embry-Riddle University. I’m also working on my Air Command and Staff College in correspondence

Previous assignments: F-16 pilot at Spangdahlem Air Base Germany from 1995 to 1998; and a T-37 IP at Vance Air Force Base, Okla. from 1989 to 1994



Hormel

Inspirations: My dad and older brother. Both have always worked extremely hard in life to not only be successful at their jobs, but more importantly, be great role models.

Goals: Job-related goals are obviously important, but nothing is more important to me than being a good husband and dad.

Greatest feat: Passing ACSC test No. 2; I can hardly wait for test No. 3.

Leadership philosophy: Constant integrity ... Respect everybody that works for you and show them you care about their future. Most importantly, be a leader, so if you are called upon to go to war, your people will want you out front leading the way.

Self-description: Easy-going, but highly competitive attitude

Famous last words: “I’m never going remote” ... Guess what, I’m on my way to Egypt for a remote assignment.

Hobbies: Sports and making my lawn look like a golf course

Bad habits: Wasting my time making my lawn look like a golf course

Security forces apprehend BX shoplifters

Blotter

Editor’s note: Crime does not stop at the fence surrounding Luke. It is up to Luke people to make a difference. You can help “take a bite out of crime” by reporting suspicious activities and people. This column is designed to increase awareness and encourage people to take positive steps to prevent crime at Luke.

56th Security Forces Squadron members responded to the following incidents Feb. 20 to 26:

Accidents

- An NCO struck a passing vehicle adjacent to the post office.
- An NCO struck a small ladder with a governmental vehicle.

Thefts

- U.S. Naval Reserve officer’s son was apprehended for shoplifting at the base exchange.
- An NCO’s son was apprehended for shoplifting at the BX.

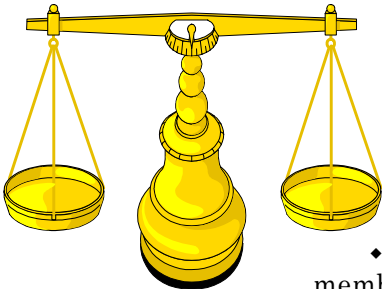


Damage

- Government property was damaged on the airfield.
- Graffiti was found on the cinder block wall adjacent to Apache Road.

Other

- An airman first class was apprehended for public intoxication and under age drinking.
- There was a vehicle fire adjacent to the main gate.



- Members of the Goodyear Police Department arrested an airman first class for driving under the influence.
- An on-base civilian was arrested by members of the Phoenix Police Department for warrants stemming from burglary and theft.
- An active-duty member attempted suicide at an off-base residence.
- Phoenix Police Department members recovered a vehicle recently stolen from Luke.
- There were three noise complaints and one 911 nonemergency calls.

Property found

- A jacket

Luke people with information on these or any other Luke crimes, call the security forces desk at 856-5970 or investigations at 856-3748. If reporting a crime or an emergency, call 856-5970 or 911. Callers may remain anonymous. To claim lost items, call investigations at 856-3748.

DACT

Continued from Page 1

and deployment project officer, said. “Generally, when we fly at Luke, it’s very scripted because we’re teaching our students to fly basic fighter maneuvers.”

The Panthers also got a chance to exchange ideas and tactics with members of the F-15 community.

“Because the Tyndall pilots are also AETC instructors, we can compare notes on everything from doctrines and teaching philosophies to handling administrative tasks and graduations – there’s definitely a profitable cross-flow of information happening.”

The maintenance side of the house also receives beneficial training.

“Our maintenance team also benefits from these deployments,” Wynn said. “Because we have people with us from different areas of the base, we learn what it’s like to work as a team, adapt to our environment and use our resources wisely – much like a real combat situation.”

Besides providing DACT to F-15 students, two 63rd FS instructors received additional training while at Tyndall when they were given an opportunity to fire a live missile. They were chosen because they had never fired live before, Topp said.

The two Panther pilots fired AIM-9 Sidewinder heat-seeking missiles at a small drone. Computers within the drone measure the success of the shot by using a telemetry package. After the live-fire mission, the performance of the F-16, missile and people, including the pilot, crew chiefs and load crew, are evaluated.

“The experience gives pilots the opportunity to learn how live missiles perform in real-world situations and validates that our weapons behave in the manner they are designed,” Topp said.

The Panthers return with a renewed spirit, ready to carry out the wing’s mission of training the world’s finest fighter pilots.

The 21st Fighter Squadron “Gamblers” leave for Tyndall at the end of March to fulfill the next 56th FW DACT commitment.

Reserve

Continued from Page 1

forecast, Luke is not the only AETC base to gain an associate unit. In October, 1999, the 325th Fighter Wing at Tyndall Air Force Base , Fla., signed on the Air National Guard to assist in training their F-15 pilots.

Commenting at the activation of the unit at Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla, Gen. Lloyd Newton, AETC commander, said, “establishing an IP associate program will expand America’s total fighter pilot force, capture invested training dollars and help alleviate our active-duty pilot shortage. Additionally, if we are going to fly and fight together, it’s logical we train together.”

The plan puts about 74 pilots into the 56th FW — 14 into each of Luke’s five participating fighter squadrons and four into 301st FS senior supervisory roles, Shay said. “The plan is to have full implementation of the Luke AFRC associate unit by July 2002.”

The Reserve has administrative and limited operational control of its pilots through the 301st FS commander and the 10th Air Force commander, while most operational control resides with the 56th FS. The Reserve pilots of the 301st FW will be attached to one of the 56th FW squadrons to perform their instructor duties.

Maj. Scott Davis, the first Reserve IP hired for this program, is attached to the 63rd Fighter Squadron.

“I’ve been an F-16 instructor pilot for more than six years,” Davis said. “This is a great opportunity for the Reserve and active duty to work side-by-side as part of the total force. We are captur-

ing extremely experienced instructors, even pilots with combat experience, and keeping that knowledge within the F-16 community, where it otherwise would have been lost once they separated from active duty.”

Integrating Reserve instructors into the wing’s mission helps the Air Force maintain its F-16 pilot-production levels and meet the demands of the operational world.

This is a win-win situation for both the active-duty and Reserve forces,” Shay said. “I’m honored to be at the forefront of this total force venture that is indeed good for America.”

The 301st FS is one of the segregated Tuskegee airmen squadrons of World War II. The all-black unit learned to fly military aircraft at Tuskegee Army Airfield, Ala.

Nearly 1,000 black pilots earned their wings and commissions and many fought in the skies over North Africa, Sicily and Europe.

The 100th, 301st and 302nd Tuskegee Fighter Squadrons were joined by the veteran 99th Fighter Squadron in July 1944 to form the 332nd Fighter Group under the command of then Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr. They flew more than 15,000 sorties and completed almost 1,600 missions.

First flying the P-40 Warhawk and later P-51 Mustangs painted with bright red tails, the “Red Tail Angels” of the 332nd FG would end the war as the only fighter group to never lose an escorted bomber to enemy fighters. The Tuskegee Airmen downed 111 enemy fighters, including three of the eight Messerschmitt ME-262 jets shot down by Allies during the war.

The group also destroyed countless targets during dangerous ground attack missions. Highly decorated Tuskegee Airmen earned 150 Distinguished Flying Crosses and sixty-six gave their lives in combat.

“This is a great opportunity for the Reserve and active duty to work side-by-side as part of the total force.”

Maj. Scott Davis
301st Fighter Squadron instructor pilot

LeMay

Continued from Page 4

Luke airmen a U.S. Department of Agriculture-approved meal program and sliding scale fees, based upon family income.

The food service team earned the 1999 AETC John L. Hennessy Award for best food service operation, and the base library was named best in AETC, Fitch said.

“Falcon Dunes Golf Course exemplifies the can-do spirit of our services team,” Fitch said. The course earned a remarkable \$284,000 profit its first year in operation and was named best in the command.

Great facilities and genuine commitment to customer service set the 56th SVS apart, said Sargeant. The squadron orchestrated more than 100 highly successful events such as Springfest, Tops in Blue, Oktoberfest and Luke Day, while also sponsoring special activities like the Firewall Fitness Challenge, Fun Runs and training for the U.S. Air Force Academy “Wings of Blue” parachute team.

Fitch credits her squadron’s focus on the customer to Walt Disney.

“He said ‘you can dream, create, design and build the most wonderful place in the world ... but it requires people to make the dream a reality.’”

Technology makes Reserve F-16s deadlier

FORT WORTH, Texas (AFPN) — Air Force Reserve Command F-16 fighter aircraft have always had the capability to be armed and dangerous. Now, they are even more lethal, with the addition of the Litening II Precision Attack Targeting System.

The 301st Fighter Wing from the Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base accepted delivery of the first four Litening II targeting pods in late February.

The pods provide F-16s with the most technologically advanced, precision-strike capability. Pilots are able to identify targets at long-range and drop extremely accurate, laser-guided weapons in a variety of environments.

This technology allows pilots to operate at much higher altitudes, further reducing their exposure to ground threats. Using a forward-looking infrared camera, this high-resolution, thermal-imaging system gives Litening II the ability to detect and identify targets night or day. Another camera, the charge couple device television, enhances the search for targets during daylight operations.

Air Force Reserve Command officials say AFRC is the first Air Force command to own such state of the art technology. The Air National Guard is also purchasing the pods, which were developed in a collaborative effort with Northrop Grumman Corp. and Rafael. Industry experts recognize the Litening II pods as ex-

tremely reliable with a very low life-cycle cost.

“Last year, Air Force Reserve Command F-16 pilots, participating in Operation Northern Watch with targeting pods (LANTIRN system) borrowed from Air Combat Command, became the first members of a reserve component to employ precision-guided munitions during contingency operations,” said Maj. Gen. John Bradley, who oversees Reserve F-16 units.

The commander of 10th Air Force said the need for AFRC to have its own equipment to train with and use in combat became more significant as operations tempo continued to increase and regional commanders-in-chief required a greater use of precision-guided munitions.

During 2000, Reserve F-16s will use their own equipment, Litening II pods, during another deployment in support of Operation Northern Watch.

“The entire complement of Litening II pods will be delivered to all four of our F-16 units by this fall,” said Lt. Col. Frank Anderson, 10th Air Force project officer.

“We now have and own the finest equipment available for precision-guided munitions delivery,” Bradley said. “This greatly improves our combat capability and survivability for our aviators, which they so deserve. This is a great day for the Air Force and our nation.”

AF develops civilian force-shaping strategy

By Senior Airman A.J. Bosker

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — The Air Force is developing a three-part force-shaping strategy to counter its “out-of-balance” civilian work force. According to Roger Blanchard, assistant deputy chief of staff for personnel, it will focus on force renewal, force development and separation management.

“As a result of the prolonged drawdown, we have hired fewer new people causing the civilian work force to become more senior,” he said. “It’s our responsibility to develop an approach to ensure we are making the most of our civilian resources. Our objective is to achieve and sustain a stable, highly-skilled and cost-effective work force with the proper balance of entry, mid-, and senior level positions.”

In an optimum force, Blanchard said, “We look for a distribution of skills and demographics across the force. “The force is very capable,” he said. “However, there is concern that 45 percent of the civilian work force is eligible for retirement in five years. This raises questions about its sustainability, causing us to do more to renew the force. We must do this in order to get people prepared to move forward into the more senior positions in the future. The civilian force is rich in terms of experience — one of its greatest strengths — and it’s impor-

tant to manage the force to sustain its experience level.”

To meet its force renewal objectives, the Air Force is developing accession strategies, such as greater investment in interns and other developmental trainees, to provide stability to its long-term sustainment efforts.

“What makes the civilian force unique is its deep understanding of the Air Force mission,” he said. “That understanding, combined with highly competent people, makes the force very effective. If we don’t bring new people into the force and provide them experience with the Air Force, we lose that vital factor that contributes so much to mission accomplishment.

“We also need to be more competitive in our hiring practices to recruit the best-qualified people in the current economy,” Blanchard said. “We are working on simplifying the process, making it easier to bring new people into the force to accelerate our re-balancing efforts.”

Another area demanding Air Force attention is skills currency, he said, especially in highly technical areas.

“Our science and engineering community has been looked at extensively,” he said. “We are trying to develop a work force management strategy to keep the Air Force on the cutting edge of science and technology. The Air Force is a technological service and our ability to optimize the use of technology requires a highly-skilled force.”

The Air Force is developing programs to ensure the

Air Force civilian work force does remain highly skilled.

“The Air Force is focusing on a managed approach to develop technical and professional skills, while addressing the need for systematic development of management and leadership skills,” he said. “To address this need, we have increased opportunities for professional development through professional military education, developmental assignments with increasing command and staff responsibilities, and participation in the Defense Leadership and Management Program.

“We also need better tools to manage separations,” added Blanchard. “Legislative approval for Voluntary Early Retirement Authority and Voluntary Separation Incentive Pay for force shaping would give us these tools.”

Additional optional retirements, early retirements and resignations would create vacancies that could be filled by new accessions.

“Representation in more junior year service groups would improve, resulting in a more stable force,” he said.

In addition, the Air Force recently held a Civilian Work Force Shaping Summit to develop additional initiatives and strategies, said David Mulgrew, chief of the Air Force civilian force management division.

“Managing the civilian force is crucial to maintaining a capable, professional work force and it’s vital to maintaining Air Force readiness,” Blanchard said.

National Nutrition Month

Luke focuses on nutrition

By 2nd Lt. Deborah Robinson
56th Medical Group

March is National Nutrition Month and the 56th Medical Group Health & Wellness Center and Nutritional Medicine have programs to help all Team Luke members achieve their nutritional health goals. The slogan for 2000, “Food and Fitness: Health for a Lifetime,” reinforces the importance of nutrition and physical activity as key components of a healthy lifestyle.

Programs are designed to communicate the flexibility of nutrition recommendations, dietary guidelines and the food guide pyramid as the framework for daily food choices that can be personalized to each individual’s food preferences, nutritional needs, health status and lifestyle. It is a call to action that challenges Americans to take responsibility for their food, nutrition, and physical activity habits.

Nutrition month is an educational and informational campaign sponsored annually by the American Dietetic Association.

The campaign is designed to focus attention on the importance of making informed food choices and developing sound eating and physical activity habits. Nutrition month also promotes ADA to the public and media as the most valuable and credible source of timely, scientifically-based food and nutritional information.

Luke’s health and nutrition and team has nutrition experts including a registered dietitian and five diet therapists. Active duty, family members, retirees and civilian employees are invited to participate in all of the activities offered. To register for a program or for more information, call 2nd Lt. Deborah Robinson, registered dietitian and nutrition programs manager at 856-3778.

National Nutrition Month events include a food drive and nutrition information displays March 15 and 31 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.at the base exchange; March 22 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the fitness center; and March 14 from 10 a.m. to noon and March 30 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the commissary.

National Nutrition Month presentations include:

- ♦ **“Fad Diets: Sorting Fact from Fiction”:** March 9 from noon to 1 p.m.at the HAWC. Learn about the pros and cons of several fad diets.
- ♦ **“Eating on the Run”:** March 23 from noon to 1 p.m. and the HAWC. Learn to eat healthy in spite of a busy lifestyle.

Nutrition information is available at the nutritional medicine web page at <http://mgintranet>. The nutritional medicine flight and the HAWC also have programs including the weight management program for those ready to lose weight sensibly and keep it off.

Lifestyle, Exercise, Attitudes, Relationships and Nutrition, or LEARN, is a no-nonsense approach to losing weight by making lifestyle changes in eating and activity habits. A registered dietitian and psychologist with extensive experience in the area of weight control team up to offer this comprehensive program. It’s a group class that meets Fridays from 9 to 11 a.m. at the HAWC. The program lasts nine weeks including an orientation March 24. Each participant is asked to complete a readiness quiz to determine if the time is right to begin the program. Space is limited and is available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

The main base food facilities offer healthy menu items to support the month. These items will be identified and nutrition analysis information provided. “Healthy choices” foods can be found at the NCO Club, Officers’ Club, base dining facility and hospital cafeteria.

Nutrition quiz and raffle forms are available at the HAWC. Take the ADA “Food Myths and Truths Quiz” and return it by March 31 to enter the raffle drawing. Prizes include T-shirts, cooler bags, auto cups, water bottles, snack sacks and massage gift certificates. The millenium is the perfect time to begin a healthy chapter on life and start to eat healthier, enjoy physical activity and really start to take good care of minds and bodies.

Salutes

AETC best

56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs
Maj. Derek Kaufman is the AETC public affairs field grade officer of the year.
In addition, Staff Sgt. Brian Coors-Davidson won best sports feature in the AETC media contest.



56th Transportation Squadron
The following 56th Transportation Squadron people are the 1999 AETC award winners:
Senior NCO: Master Sgt. John Kemper
NCO: Tech. Sgt. Eric Smith
Airman: Senior Airman John Payne

Annual award winners

372nd Training Squadron
The following 372nd Training Squadron people are the 1999 award winners:
Flight Chief: Master Sgt. Robert Shoulders
Senior NCO: Master Sgt. Clayton Allen
NCO: Tech. Sgt. William McClain
Senior Instructor: Tech. Sgt. Billy Roundtree
Junior Instructor: Staff Sgt. Joseph Carrion

Quarterly award winners



Flight Chief: Tech. Sgt. Douglas Sargent
NCO: Tech. Sgt. Michael Garland
Senior Instructor: Tech. Sgt. Billy Roundtree
Junior Instructor: Staff Sgt. Joseph Carrion

Mental health

Providers address stigma concerns

By 2nd Lt. Danielle Burrows
355th Wing Public affairs

DAVIS-MONTHAN AIR FORCE BASE, Ariz. — Active-duty military members may think twice before seeking help from a mental health counselor because of rumors about others being seperated from the Air Force, denied a security clearance or flight status after talking to a therapist.

According to mental health counselors at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz., combating rumors like these and the stigma surrounding therapy is their greatest challenge.

In truth, the majority of counseling conducted will not affect a member's security clearance or flying status, said Capt. Douglas Huff, 355th Medical Group Mental Health element chief. In some cases active-duty members may even be prescribed anti-depressants for a short period of time to assist in their treatment without any negative impact on their career.

"Most people who come to see us are just people who realize they are not handling stress well or are having relationship problems, and just want to talk to someone," Huff said. "Approximately 85 percent of the people who seek mental health counseling are trying to find information on how they can improve or resolve the problem areas of their lives."

Confidentiality is another concern expressed by active-duty members about using the mental health services. In reality, strict confidentiality is maintained unless the member is a safety risk to themselves or others or when the member is in direct violation of the Uniformed Code of Military Justice, he said.

People seek counseling for a variety of reasons, such as coping with the stressors of adjusting to military lifestyle, family separations and high operations tempo.

"Everybody has problems," Huff said, "Sometimes they need help."

For relationship problems, stress and anger management, alcohol addiction or dependency and general depression, members can seek help from mental health.

For nonemergencies, people are generally seen within one week. During the initial process, a mental health technician documents the member's chief complaints, and a mental health provider

works with the patient to develop a treatment plan and therapy goals.

"The client is the major component in developing the treatment plan," said Capt. Jennifer Seago, family advocacy chief.

Emergency cases are usually handled within the hour during normal duty hours and mental health providers are available 24 hours a day to assist in crisis situations.

The mental health flight also administers urinalysis testing for illegal drugs and alcohol.

Irresponsible use of alcohol can destroy a person's marriage or career, and is also a factor in 33 percent of active-duty suicides, Huff said.

Mental health works with the family support center, the chapel and squadron first sergeants in trying to meet the needs of their patients.

Huff described his flight's relationship with the base's first sergeants as "excellent."

"We, more than any other agency on base, realize a first sergeant's job is 'where the rubber meets the road'," Huff said. "Many times they're the first to arrive on the scene (of an emergency)."

"When the situation requires that the unit be notified, we rely heavily on the commanders and first sergeants to assist us in working with their members," Seago added.

Family advocacy is the agency people go to for parenting classes, conflict resolution and learning how to deal with domestic violence. Master-level social workers experienced in working with families deal with stressful situations.

"Family advocacy's focus is on prevention and helping families have healthier relationships. The majority of programs from family advocacy are designed with this objective in mind," Seago said.

Additionally, mental health providers are responsible for suicide and violence prevention training.

Statistics show six out of every 100,000 Air Force members commit suicide every year. The Air Force has brought these issues to the front," Huff added.

"The mission of the mental health flight is to make sure members are deployable and able to complete their assigned mission — just like any base support agency," Seago said.

For information on Luke's mental health services, call 856-7579.

“The mission of the mental health flight is to make sure members are deployable and able to complete their assigned mission — just like any base support agency,”

Capt. Jennifer Seago
Davis-Monthan Air Force Base
family advocacy chief

Troops get nutrition via patch

By Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — U.S. combat troops may get part of their daily diet through their arms if a new concept works out.

Army Soldier Center researchers in Natick, Mass., are working on a transdermal nutrient delivery system — a skin patch similar in concept to nicotine and motion sickness patches. The system could be a part of every combat servicemember’s kit by 2025.

Gerald Darsch, joint project director for the Defense Department Combat Feeding Program at Natick, said the developmental version is about the size of a conventional adhesive bandage and about three times thicker. The final version will be encased in a very fliexible polymer, he said.

“Troops won’t even notice they have it on,” he said. The patches would contain “micronutrient” reservoirs and microscopic “pumps” and “plumbing.” The nutrients would supplement a warfighter’s diet during periods of high-intensity conflict. Officials see a use for the system to combat cold weather and high-altitude stress.

“The idea is to keep the warfighter’s cognitive and physical performance sharpened at the optimal level,” Darsch said.

Darsch said the system could incorporate various micronutrients. Researchers, he said, are considering 65 to

70 chemicals that might be effective and safe. Two candidates, are tyrsone, which has been proven to help combat cold and high-altitude stress, and glutathione, which could help reduce muscle fatigue and increase the ability of the liver and kidneys to filter out metabolic wastes.

“There still needs to be a lot of research done. What are the doses that we should administer? What are the lasting effects?” he asked. “We need to be sure before we start giving these to warfighters.”

The system would dispense micronutrients when a self-contained near-infrared sensor determines the wearer needs them. The chemicals would be absorbed through the skin.

Even using the transdermal patch, though, servicemembers will still be hungry because the patches won’t replace food. “You can still eat even with the transdermal system,” Darsch said. “Am I going to tell you that a Milky Way or a Snickers bar still won’t find its way into the rucksack of a soldier? Our servicemembers are pretty bright.”

Darsch said researchers could probably add an appetite suppressant that makes the hypothalamus think the stomach is full.

Darsch said some outside agencies are interested in the concept. “We need to get industry and academia with us on this,” he said. “Firefighters, police, mountain rescue people, all could benefit from this concept.”

He said the engineering of the transdermal patch system is possible by 2010.

DFAS offers bonds to civilian employees starting Wednesday

DENVER (AFPN) — The Defense Finance and Accounting Service offers Series I savings bonds, along with existing Series EE savings bonds, to civilian employees beginning Wednesday, through the voluntary payroll savings plan; active-duty and retired military members may buy the bonds April 1.

The bonds are sold at face value and offered at \$50, \$75, \$100, \$200, \$500 and \$1,000 denominations.

The Treasury Department created the bonds to provide an opportunity to protect the purchase power of their savings from inflation. Investors are offered a bond with a fixed rate, combined with semi-annual inflation adjustments. The bonds are an accrual type security, meaning earnings are added to the bond each month and interest is paid when the bond is cashed. The bonds grow in value with inflation-indexed earnings up to 30 years.

The EE bonds are treasury securities, and interest is added to the redemption value every six months and paid to the investor when redeemed. The price of an EE Bond is 50-percent face value and is offered for \$100, \$200, \$500 and \$1,000.



Staff Sgt. Andy Jacobus

Members of the 56th Civil Engineer Squadron recently volunteered for a Habitat for Humanity project in Avondale.

Volunteering offers rewards

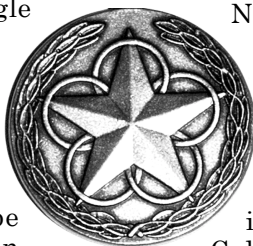
By 2nd Lt. Miki Kristina Krejcarek
56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Active-duty members of the Armed Forces, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve may be eligible to earn a medal for community volunteer service performed after Dec. 31, 1992.

The Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal recognizes exceptional and direct community support over time, not a single act or achievement. The award is not focused on a specific number of volunteer hours, but on the type of service performed.

"The services an individual performs must not be part of any military mission and may not result in any personal gain for the servicemember," said Senior Airman Melissa Tanner, 56th Mission Support Squadron awards and decorations technician.

Staff Sgt. Michael Callahan,



Servicemembers may earn Volunteer Service Medal for sustained contributions

56th MSS NCO in charge of evaluations, recently won the medal in November for his volunteerism while in Australia.

"It was an honor to receive the medal because it inspires other military members to get involved in their community," Callahan said.

Callahan volunteered in Australia as a soccer coach for the little and senior leagues, and also as a disc jockey and sound technical assistant for a local nonprofit radio station.

"I just feel good about helping

others and passing on what I have learned," he said. "It's more of providing mentoring and giving direction to young minds."

Callahan said volunteerism throughout his nine-year Air Force career has helped him to learn more from others. It has also inspired people around him to do the same.

To qualify for the award, a member's volunteer service must be in the civilian community or the military family community. The service must also be significant,

produce tangible results, be sustained, direct and consequential in nature and reflect favorably on the Air Force and Department of Defense.

To receive the award, the member must be recommended by their immediate supervisor in memorandum format to the unit commander, then to the respective group commander, Tanner said.

Once the commander certifies the individual meets eligibility criteria, the memo is then forwarded to the military personnel flight awards and decorations section for approval, she said.

An individual can only be considered for only one award during an assignment or completion of an overseas tour.

For more information about the medal, call the military personnel flight awards and decorations section at 856-7816.



Courtesy photos

Members of the 607th Air Control Squadron volunteer throughout the local community. (Left) Squadron members help repair and paint a house in the local community. (Above) Members volunteer at the Boys and Girls Clubs of Glendale during a Martin Luther King Day celebration. (Right) Staff Sgt. Truth Clark helps clean up a Glendale Park.



Around Base

Service Academies Conference

Arizona Sen.Jon Kyl and Congressman John Shadegg have a U.S. Service Academies Conference Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon at Chaparral High School, 6935 East Gold Dust Ave., Scottsdale. The conference is open to high school students and their parents. For more information, call (602) 840-1891 or (602) 263-5300.

Hike for homeless

Saint Joseph the Worker’s has a 2-kilometer “Hike for the Homeless” March 11 at 9 a.m. at Dreamy Draw, Ariz. Registration is \$10 for individuals or \$7 per person for groups of five or more. To register, call (602) 257-4390.

Big band dance, USO show

The Arizona Wing of the Confederate Air Force has a big band dance and World War II-style United Services Organization show March 18 at 8 p.m. at Falcon Field Airport, 2017 N. Greenfield Road, Mesa. Advance tickets are \$20 per person or \$25 at the door. Doors open at 5 p.m., the show starts at 6:45 p.m. and

dancing starts at 8 p.m. For reservations or more information, call (480) 924-1940 or (480) 981-1945.

Career fair

Estrella Mountain Community College has a career fair March 30 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 3000 N. Dysart Road, Avondale. Technology, education, health care, retail and other career fields are represented. For more information, call (623) 935-8804.

Red Cross volunteer orientation

The American Red Cross has a volunteer orientation March 9 and 23 at 10 a.m. at Bldg. 1150, room 1077. Many volunteer positions are available at the hospital, library, tax center and many other areas. For more information or to volunteer, call 856-7823.

CPR and first aid training

The Red Cross offers cardiopulmonary resuscitation and first aid training class Saturday at Bldg. 1150 in Rm. 1050. The class covers adult, child and infant CPR, plus basic first aid. Cost is \$22. For more information or to register, call 856-7823.

Budweiser Clydesdales

Team Luke members and family members are

invited to see the Budweiser Clydesdale horses at the Shoppette March 12 from 1 to 4 p.m.

Embry-Riddle registration

The Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University spring term begins March 20. Registration ends March 24. For more information, call 856-6471.

OWC craft fair

The Luke Officers’ Wives Club needs vendors for a spring craft fair March 21 from 9 a.m. to 7p.m. the fee is \$30 per 6-foot table. For more information, call Rhonda Fingal at 935-7352.

Arizona Renaissance Festival

The 56th Services Squadron offers free Arizona Renaissance Festival ticket drawings at services facilities through March. Reduced-price tickets are also available from Information Tickets and Tours. The festival is Saturdays and Sundays through March 26. For more information, call 856-6000.

Luke School receipts collection

Luke School collects Fry’s receipts, Campbell’s Soup labels and General Mills box tops. A collection box is at the Luke Library.

Movies

Movies begin at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Children 12 and under pay \$1; adults \$1.50.

Today and Saturday

“Next Friday” (R) Stars Ice Cube. Forces beyond a young man’s control test survival skills and a family commitment in South Central Los Angeles. (93 minutes)

Sunday

“Play it to the Bone” (R) Stars Woody Harrelson and Antonio Banderas. Best friends and boxing rivals Vince Boudreau and Caesar Dominguez get the chance of a lifetime, to work together in Vegas. The job promises big money, but there’s a hitch. (125 minutes)

March 10

“The Hurricane” (R) Stars Denzel Washington. In June 1966, Rubin “Hurricane” Carter was a contender for the middleweight boxing title. When three people are murdered in a New Jersey bar, Carter is wrongfully arrested and sentenced to serve three life terms in prison. (120 minutes)

Commander’s Access Channel

Air Force Television News, Feb. 22 edition

- ♦ DOD’s Air Force budget
- ♦ Unique program provides aircraft mechanics
- ♦ Air Force career opprotunities for women

Monday— 11:30 a.m. and 4 p.m.
Wednesday— 11:30 a.m.
Thursday— 2 p.m.

Chapel News

Worship schedule

The following is Luke’s worship schedule:

Protestant worship

- ♦ Gospel service is Sunday at 8:30 a.m. at the Chapel on the Mall.
- ♦ Liturgical service is Sunday at 8 a.m. at the Luke Community Chapel.
- ♦ Contemporary service is Sunday at 6 p.m. at the Luke Community Chapel.
- ♦ Shared faith service is Sunday at 11 a.m. at the Luke Community Chapel.

Catholic worship

- ♦ Saturday Mass is at 5 p.m. at the Luke Community Chapel.
- ♦ Sunday Mass is at 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. at the Luke Community Chapel
- ♦ Weekday Mass is at noon at the Luke Community Chapel.





Luke cops, hockey team aid unfortunate children

By Senior Airman Jeremy Clayton Tredway
56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Members of the Luke Falcons varsity ice hockey team and 56th Security Forces Squadron participated in a game of street hockey Saturday to benefit underprivileged Mesa children.

Once a month the team teaches children team-work, discipline and street hockey fundamentals, while providing them positive role models as part of the “Takin’ it to the Streets” program.

“The main objective of this program is to teach unity and teamwork, but most importantly provide guidance for these children, many of whom come from less than fortunate households,” said Senior Airman Erik Saracino, Falcons head coach.

Luke got involved with the program through the Hacker Hockey Club, which sponsors the event. Most of the Luke ice hockey team belongs to the club, which is made up of people who get together on the weekends to play ice hockey.

Saracino, who’s been friends with Hacker Hockey Club coordinator Frank Wright since coming to Luke, volunteered with the Takin’ it to the Streets program and solicited other Luke people to help.

In six months, the number has grown from six people to more than 30 active-duty people and their families.

“No one can realize how much of an impact we have on these children,” Saracino said. “The children get so geared up to see us. The best thing about the event is watching the children’s faces light up. It seems they’ve found happiness.”

After the games, the club lets the children keep

the hockey sticks and other donated equipment. The more expensive equipment is left with Beverly Tittle-Baker who runs a charity organization out of her home in the area so the children can practice.

“By letting the children keep the equipment, it gives them pride of ownership and also a chance to practice among themselves,” said Wright.

When players get cracks or breaks in their sticks, they usually throw them away. The club recycles these sticks by cutting off the broken blades and attaching plastic ones. Then they shorten them for the children.

The other equipment such as balls, nets and goalie equipment is donated from area Play it Again Sports stores, Franklin Sports and Ultra Wheels.

In addition, the club collects money, food and toys for the children. The club’s 500 members have collected more than \$10,000, 300 broken sticks and “tons” of food.

“It seems like my car is always full of food bags and hockey sticks,” Wright said. “I tell the guys whenever they see my car with the top down at the rink to just put their bags of food in and I’ll get it to Mesa. At least four times I’ve found my car so full I hardly had a place to sit to drive. Instinctively the guys seem to know when the food pantry is empty.”

Wright said the children also benefit by knowing somebody cares about them.

“These children are often dropped off (at Tittle-Baker’s house) by their parents and never picked up. We have an opportunity to give something back and truly make a difference in their lives. When we first came to play, some of them were so hurt emotionally they wouldn’t even smile — now smiles are everywhere.”

Sure shot ...



Tech. Sgt. Michael Burns
Col. Ron Lee, 56th Logistics Group commander, watches the ball drop in the hole after chipping out of a sand trap during the 19th Annual Luke Shootout Golf Tournament Feb. 25 at Falcon Dunes Golf Course.

607th defeats CRS 58-55 to start season

By Senior Airman
Jeremy Clayton Tredway
56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The 607th Air Control Squadron Snakes defeated the 56th Component Repair Squadron 58-55 Tuesday in their first intramural basketball game of the season at the base fitness center.

CRS player Derrick Porter missed a game-tying free throw with nine seconds left on the clock allowing Snakes player Albert Terry to grab the rebound and find Herman Magee for a game-clinching lay up.

After trailing CRS 20-21 at the end of

the first half, the Snakes exploded 7-0, to start the second.

CRS battled back to within a point before the Snakes rattled off nine unanswered points to build a 44-34 lead. CRS kept fighting and took a 55-54 lead with 56 seconds left when Chuck Snyder hit two free throws.

Terry stepped up to secure the Snakes win, getting a crucial steal and finding Turner for an easy lay up. Then he rebounded Porter’s missed free throw and found Magee for another wide-open lay up.

Snyder said the deciding factor in the game was the Snakes bench.

“It’s always helpful when you can rotate people in and wear the opposing team down,” Snyder said. “They could afford to be a little more aggressive, because they knew they had substitutes.”

“Since we were missing some key players, we wanted to control the tempo, which we did a good job of except for at the beginning of the second half,” he said. “They went on a little run early, but we got back into our game plan and closed the gap to make it a close game.”

Snyder said another factor was that most of the players had never played together before.

“With the exception of myself and Porter, the players we had at the game had never really played together, so to make it a close game was definitely a plus,” Snyder said. “I think if we can get all of our players out there and get a couple of games under our belt, we’ll be fine. It’s just the beginning of the season so we’ve got a while to get prepared.”

Terry led the Snakes with 14 points and 15 rebounds. Chris Jones and Timothy Turner added 12 and 10 points respectively for the Snakes.

Snyder and Porter led CRS with 24 and 23 points respectively. Gary Dean added 8.

Spring training ...



Photos by Tech. Sgt. Michael Burns
(Above) Jake Hamm, 309th Fighter Squadron, takes a swing during batting practice Tuesday at the base softball fields. (Right) Sean Anderson, 309th Fighter Squadron, hurls a ball into the infield during fielding practice Tuesday at the base softball fields. The intramural softball season begins April 3. Letters of intent to play must be turned in before or during the softball meeting Monday at 10 a.m. at the base library. There will be a preseason tournament March 31 through April 2. For more information, call the fitness center at 856-6241.



Sports commentary

AF loses friend, hero

By **Tech. Sgt. Ginger Schreitmuller**
Air Force Special Operations Command Public Affairs

ANDREWS AIR FORCE BASE, Md. (AFPN) — While attending a conference at Andrews Air Force Base, Md., I heard that Kansas City Chiefs linebacker Derrick Thomas died Feb. 8. He suffered a heart attack while recovering from injuries sustained in a car accident.

His death doesn't just impact the sports community, it impacts the Air Force family.

Maybe once in our lives we meet a person who touches us in an extraordinary way. They are the true heroes.

In 1997, while stationed at Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, I had the chance to meet Derrick Thomas. He was in Hawaii for his eighth straight appearance in the Pro Bowl. Though my job as a public affairs

specialist often allows me to interview senior military leaders, rarely do I get the chance to talk with a superstar athlete. When I learned why Derrick was visiting, I was excited about interviewing him and telling his amazing story — and the story of his father.

Capt. Robert Thomas was a U.S. Air Force pilot on a B-52G Stratofortess when his aircraft was shot down over North Vietnam in 1972 during Operation Linebacker II. He was listed as missing in action for nearly six years before his remains were identified through the U.S. Army Central Identification Lab in Hawaii and returned to his family in 1978. Derrick wanted to visit the lab to learn more about a father he never

knew and the agency that helped bring his dad home.

I had the pleasure of spending the day with Derrick talking and listening. I heard the stories of a young boy growing up without his dad. Instead of tinges of anger and hurt, Derrick talked with pride about the sacrifices his father and so many others made in a war many felt we didn't belong. I heard the man talk about how honored he was to be a part of the Air Force family and how proud he was of all those who have and continue to serve. I saw a different man than the defensive linebacker who sacked and racked his opponents.

The day after his visit to Hickam and the lab, Derrick appeared on ESPN. But, he didn't talk about the Pro Bowl or football. He talked about his dad and thanked the Air Force for affording him the opportunity to visit the lab. Throughout the

interview, Derrick proudly wore an "Aim High" hat. He was an unsolicited, from-the-heart supporter of the Air Force people and mission.

Now, 3 years later I saw Derrick's image on the television ... this time it was the news of his death. Only 33 years old, his short life left an invaluable imprint on many people, on and off the field.

Defining a hero isn't as easy as finding the entry in Webster's Dictionary. True heroes aren't molded or trained. The world has lost a great athlete. The Air Force has lost a member of its family and a friend. And, like his father whose name is etched on the Vietnam Memorial, the nation has lost a true hero.

"He was an unsolicited, from-the-heart supporter of the Air Force people and mission."

Tech. Sgt. Ginger Schreitmuller
Air Force Special Operations Command Public Affairs

Sports Briefs

Youth golf camp

Parents of 8 to 14 year olds may register their children at the youth center for a free golf camp. The camp is March 20 to 24. For more information, call 865-7470 or 856-6225.

ROTC golf tournament

The Second Annual ROTC Golf Tournament is April 3 at 7:30 a.m. at the Falcon Dunes Golf Course. The tournament is a four-person scramble. Cost is \$65 per person. Register by March 27. For more information, call retired Brig. Gen. Bob Brainard at 977-1354 or retired Col. Fred Middleton at (480) 991-0528.

X-treme Bowling

The Luke Bowling Center kicks off X-treme bowling today at 10:30 p.m. at the bowling center. Doors open at 9:30 p.m. Cost is \$9 for officer and enlisted club members and \$11 for nonmembers. General admission for nonbowlers is \$5 per person.

Varsity hockey

People wanting to play on the Luke Varsity Ice Hockey Team may call Senior Airman Erik Saracino at work at 856-5970 or home at 544-1637.

Wrestling match

A dozen stars from the International Wrestling Federation appear Sunday at 5 p.m. at the Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz., Haeffner Fitness Center, 3285 6th Street. Admission is \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door. For more information, call Information Tickets and Tours at (520) 228-3841.

